FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 7, 2006 CONTACT: Jared Cordes

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BOYD INTRODUCES LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE RURAL HEALTHCARE

WASHINGTON, D.CCongressman Allen Boyd (D-North	Florida) today joined his colleagues of the Ru

"Our rural communities should not be overlooked when it comes to access to critical healthcare services

The key provisions of the H-Care Act include:

- Authorizing a loan program targeted to rural hospitals for capital improvement projects such as hos
- Improving payments for rural ground ambulance services.
- Establishing the Rural Community Hospital Program to provide Medicare cost-based reimburseme
- Raising rural health clinic reimbursements to more appropriately cover costs.
- Extending several expiring Medicare adjustment payments for rural practitioners. This would inclu

"Access to affordable, quality healthcare is of great importance to me and the people of North Florida," s

The H-Care Act has been endorsed by many healthcare and rural healthcare organizations such as the

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